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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/050,553	01/18/2002	Kazuhiko Shigemi	SAT 171	6049
23995	7590	08/25/2004	EXAMINER	
RABIN & Berdo, PC 1101 14TH STREET, NW SUITE 500 WASHINGTON, DC 20005			ELISCA, PIERRE E	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		3621		

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/050,553	SHIGEMI ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	Pierre E. Elisca	3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 May 2004.

2a)  This action is FINAL.                            2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## **Disposition of Claims**

4)  Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)  Claim(s) 1-10 is/are allowed.

6)  Claim(s) 11-20 is/are rejected.

7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a)  All b)  Some \* c)  None of:  
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date

4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_ .

5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is in response to Applicant's amendment, filed on 05/13/2004.
2. Claims 1-20 are pending.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1-10 are allowed over the prior art of record.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371<sup>©</sup> of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

5. Claims 11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Haseltine et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,578,015).

As per claims 11 and 14-20 Haseltine discloses a computer-implemented method/system of presenting an electronic bill from a biller (or billing payment or charge collecting) to a customer over a computer network, comprising:

a use information management unit which manages use information of the plurality of users and generates requested contents for each of the plurality of users as of a date prior to a date of closing of a predetermined period during which each respective user is to be authorized to use the charge collection system (see., abstract, col 2, lines 63-67, col 3, lines 1-67, col 11, lines 32-61);

a notice information management unit which manages the requested contents to be notified to each of the plurality of users via the network according to a corresponding user address on the network provided by the use information management unit for each of the respective users (see., abstract, col 7, lines 34-47);

a requested content contents notice unit which transmits to each of the users via the network, the corresponding requested contents and a payment execution information including an address of the notice information management unit to which a paying instruction regarding the corresponding requested contents is to be sent (see., abstract, fig 2, item 260, col 11, lines 32-62, customer payments or settlement); and

a settlement unit which makes a real-time settlement on the network when there is an access by one of the plurality of users to the paying address notified by the requested contents notice unit and the paying instruction regarding the corresponding requested contents from the one user is received (see., abstract, fig 2, item 260, col 11, lines 32-62, col 8, lines 9-64).

As per claim 12, Haseltine discloses the claimed limitations wherein said requested contents notice unit transmits the requested contents to each of the users by Email in

accordance with the use information managed by the use information management unit (see., abstract, col 7, lines 34-47, specifically wherein said the active area 430 may also include notification functionality adapted to generate and send an email).

As per claim 13, Haseltine discloses the claimed limitations wherein said settlement unit provides the use information management unit with information indicative of completion of the settlement with respect to each of the plurality of users (see., col 5, lines 37-57, col 9, lines 5-67).

## RESPONSE TO ARGUMENTS

6. Applicant's arguments filed on 05/13/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Necessitated by amendment.

### *Conclusion*

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre E. Elisca whose telephone number is 703 305-3987. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on 703 305-9769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Pierre Eddy Elisca

Primary Patent Examiner

August 20, 2004